

REMARKS

Claims 15, 17, 19-28, 30, 32-38 and 40 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 31 is cancelled and claims 15 and 28 are amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. The Claims Satisfy All Formal Requirements

The Office Action objects to claims 30 and 31 because of informalities. Specifically, the Office Action asserts that claims 30 and 31 recite exactly the same limitation and hence one of them must be cancelled. Thus, claim 31 is cancelled to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection to the claims are respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 15, 17, 19-23, 25-28, 30-36, 38 and 40 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,739,634 to Wakimoto (hereinafter "Wakimoto") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,111,356 to Roitman et al. (hereinafter "Roitman"); and claims 24 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Wakimoto in view of JP 10-36487. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Wakimoto does not disclose an electroluminescent device including a bank defining a pixel and a cathode overlying the bank and edges of the anode, as recited in claims 15 and 28.

Instead, Wakimoto is silent about pixel partitions such as a bank. Further, Wakimoto discloses a cathode 1 located above anode 2, but the cathode 1 does not overlay the edges of the anode.

The Office Action asserts that Roitman makes up for the deficiencies of Wakimoto. However, Roitman does not make up for the deficiencies of Wakimoto as discussed above. That is, Roitman does not disclose the features asserted by the Office Action.

Instead, Roitman discloses a cathode 32 located above anode 13 and insulating layers 14 in Figures 4 and 5. However, Roitman does not disclose that the cathodes 32 overlays the bank and edges of the anode. See Figures 4 and 5.

The Office Action also rejects claims 24 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Wakimoto in view of JP 10-36487. Since claims 24 and 37 depend from claims 15 and 28, it is respectfully submitted that it is the intention of the Office Action to reject claims 24 and 37 under Wakimoto in view of Roitman, and further in view of JP 10-36487.

The Office Action appears to assert that JP 10-36487 make up for the deficiencies of Wakimoto in view of Roitman. However, JP 10-36487 does not make up for the deficiencies of Wakimoto and Roitman as discussed above. Thus, even combining these references with Wakimoto would not result in the claimed invention.

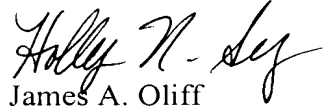
For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15 and 28 are distinguishable over the applied art. Claims 17, 19-23, 25-28, 30, 32-36, 38 and 40, which depend from claims 15 and 28, are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed, as well as for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 15, 17, 19-28, 30, 32-38 and 40 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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